

BARBEQUE GRILL

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

Not Applicable.

5 STATEMENT REGARDING FEDERALLY SPONSORED RESEARCH OR DEVELOPMENT

Not Applicable.

REFERENCE TO A MICROFICHE APPENDIX

10 Not Applicable.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

TECHNICAL FIELD

15 This invention relates to outdoor cooking devices and, more particularly, to a
barbeque grill.

PRIOR ART

20 Conventional barbecue-type grilling devices typically include a horizontally
disposed grill which is placed directly above the burning coals, or the source of heat
used for cooking. As the food cooks, grease and fat drippings from the meat may
burst into flames upon contact with the heat source, giving off fumes which may
burn or impair the taste of the food. Oftentimes, the liquid dripping from the meat
may cause a flame to singe or burn the meat which deposits carbon on the meat.
Consumption of such charred meat is known to contribute to the development of
25 cancer in humans over time.

Accordingly, a need remains for a grill that prevents grease drippings from
dropping on the heat source and to prevent flames from erupting and charring the
food.

BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

In view of the foregoing background, it is therefore an object of the present invention to provide an apparatus for outdoor cooking. These and other objects, features, and advantages of the invention are provided by a barbeque grill including
5 a base member having a longitudinal axis and a substantially planar bottom surface. The base member further has a plurality of sidewalls integral therewith and extending substantially vertically therefrom. The base member includes a plurality of spaced support rails slidably engageable with the bottom surface and for guiding the base member between retracted and extended positions substantially parallel to
10 the axis.

The grill further includes a plurality of elongated support legs connected to the plurality of support rails respectively and extending substantially vertically adjacent to the base member. A pair of opposed side panels having top and bottom edge portions are secured to the plurality of support legs. The side panels extend
15 substantially parallel to the plurality of support legs along a vertical plane and define a cavity therebetween.

The grill further includes a top member having front and rear edge portions positioned along a length of the top edge portions respectively and extending across the cavity. The rear edge portion is pivotally connected to one of the side
20 panels so that the top member can be selectively moved between open and closed positions. The top member further includes a lid pivotally connected thereto and for selectively covering the grill surface during cooking operations. The lid includes a handle connected thereto and for assisting a user to selectively pivot the lid between open and closed positions. The top member further includes a grill surface
25 for supporting foodstuff thereon and being spaced above the cavity.

The grill further includes a plurality of baskets for storing charcoal therein. The plurality of baskets have a generally rectangular shape and extend adjacent a length of the side panels. The baskets are disposed substantially medially between the base member and the top member and extend substantially parallel to the axis.

The grill further includes a drip pan having a substantially V-shaped cross-section for collecting and directing grease downwardly and away from the plurality of baskets. The drip pan has opposed edge portions and a central portion converging medially and downwardly therefrom and rear and front portions offset
5 above and below the axis respectively. The drip pan is disposed substantially medially of the plurality of baskets and is engaged therewith respectively.

The grill further includes a reservoir having a substantially cylindrical shape and is removably positionable on the bottom surface of the base member for receiving grease drippings directed downwardly and away from the drip pan. A
10 plurality of access doors are pivotally connected to the side panels respectively and extend along a partial length thereof and substantially parallel to the axis. The plurality of access doors are disposed adjacent the plurality of baskets and are movable between open and closed positions so that a user can effectively access the cavity. The plurality of access doors are selectively pivotal within a select
15 quadrant respectively. The grill further includes a plurality of wheels pivotally secured to the plurality of support legs respectively and for allowing the barbecue grill to be rolled along a ground surface.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SEVERAL VIEWS OF THE DRAWING

20 The novel features believed to be characteristic of this invention are set forth with particularity in the appended claims. The invention itself, however, both as to its organization and method of operation, together with further objects and advantages thereof, may best be understood by reference to the following description taken in connection with the accompanying drawings in which:

25 FIG. 1 is a perspective view showing a barbeque grill without a lid, in accordance with the present invention;

FIG. 2 is a cross-sectional view of the barbeque grill shown in FIG. 1 with a lid added thereto, taken along line 2-2; and

FIG. 3 is a perspective view of the drip pan.

30

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

The present invention will now be described more fully hereinafter with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which preferred embodiments of the invention are shown. This invention may, however, be embodied in many different
5 forms and should not be construed as limited to the embodiments set forth herein. Rather, these embodiments are provided so that this application will be thorough and complete, and will fully convey the true scope of the invention to those skilled in the art. Like numbers refer to like elements throughout the figures.

The apparatus of this invention is referred to generally in FIGS. 1-3 by the
10 reference numeral 10 and is intended to provide a barbeque grill for outdoor cooking. It should be understood that the grill 10 may be used to cook many different types of foodstuffs.

Initially referring to FIG. 1, the grill 10 includes a base member 11 having a longitudinal axis (not shown) and a substantially planar bottom surface 12. The
15 base member 11 further has a plurality of sidewalls 13 integral therewith and extending substantially vertically therefrom. The base member 11 includes a plurality of spaced support rails 14 slidably engageable with the bottom surface 12 and for guiding the base member 11 between retracted and extended positions substantially parallel to the axis, as best shown in FIG. 2. Advantageously, a user
20 is able to easily extend the base member and easily clean ashes, coals, and other debris after grilling.

Now referring to FIGS. 1 and 2, the grill 10 further includes a plurality of elongated support legs 15 connected to the plurality of support rails 14 respectively and extending substantially vertically adjacent to the base member 11. A pair of
25 opposed side panels 16 having top 17 and bottom 18 edge portions are secured to the plurality of support legs 15. The side panels 16 extend substantially parallel to the plurality of support legs 15 along a vertical plane and define a cavity therebetween.

The grill 10 further includes a top member 20 having front 21 and rear 22
30 edge portions positioned along a length of the top edge portions 17 respectively

and extending across the cavity. The rear edge portion 22 is pivotally connected to one of the side panels 16 so that the top member 20 can be selectively moved between open and closed positions, as best shown in FIG. 2.

In an alternate embodiment, the top member 20 further includes a lid 23 pivotally connected thereto and for selectively covering the grill surface during cooking operations. The lid 23 includes a handle 24 connected thereto and for assisting a user to selectively pivot the lid 23 between open and closed positions, as best shown in FIG. 2. The top member 20 further includes a grill surface 25 for supporting foodstuff thereon and being spaced above the cavity.

Still referring to FIGS. 1 and 2, the grill 10 further includes a plurality of baskets 30 for storing charcoal therein. This allows a user to selectively add charcoal as needed during operating conditions. The plurality of baskets 30 have a generally rectangular shape and extend adjacent a length of the side panels 16. The baskets 30 are disposed substantially medially between the base member 11 and the top member 20 and extend substantially parallel to the axis.

The grill 10 further includes a drip pan 40 having a substantially V-shaped cross-section for collecting and directing grease downwardly and away from the plurality of baskets 30, as best shown in FIG. 3. The drip pan 40 has opposed edge portions 41 and a central portion 42 converging medially and downwardly therefrom and rear 43 and front 44 portions offset above and below the axis respectively. Advantageously, any grease dripping from the grill 10 will fall on the drip pan 40 and be directed away from a heat source so that it will not erupt in flames. The drip pan 40 is disposed substantially medially of the plurality of baskets 30 and is engaged therewith respectively.

The grill 10 further includes a reservoir 45 having a substantially cylindrical shape removably positionable on the bottom surface 12 of the base member 11 for receiving grease drippings directed downwardly and away from the drip pan 40. When the reservoir is full, a user can easily remove it from the base member 11 and dispose of its contents. A plurality of access doors 50 are pivotally connected

to the side panels 16 respectively and extend along a partial length thereof and substantially parallel to the axis.

5 The plurality of access doors 50 are disposed adjacent the plurality of baskets 30 and are movable between open and closed positions so that a user can effectively access the cavity in order to replenish the charcoal supply. The plurality of access doors 50 are selectively pivotal within a select quadrant respectively. The grill 10 further includes a plurality of wheels 60 pivotally secured to the plurality of support legs 15 respectively and for allowing the barbecue grill to be rolled along a ground surface.

10 The grill 10 features a wide range of benefits including less smoke and fewer flare-ups than standard grills so that food can be cooked gradually. As a result, the grill 10 eliminates the uncontrolled fires that frequently occur when hot grease drips onto hot charcoal. This allows heat and smoke to penetrate foods without scorching or burning expensive meats, enhancing their flavor and texture. In addition,
15 charcoal is easily added through the access doors in the event more charcoal is needed during operating conditions. The base member 11 can be easily removed for easy clean-up without disassembling the grill.

The grill 10 would be welcomed as a safe, simple to clean, and easy to use durable grill by users who enjoy barbecuing, camping and picnicking. The portable
20 design allows the grill 10 to be transported to social events, tailgate parties and cookouts.

While the invention has been described with respect to a certain specific embodiment, it will be appreciated that many modifications and changes may be made by those skilled in the art without departing from the spirit of the invention. It
25 is intended, therefore, by the appended claims to cover all such modifications and changes as fall within the true spirit and scope of the invention.

In particular, with respect to the above description, it is to be realized that the optimum dimensional relationships for the parts of the present invention may include variations in size, materials, shape, form, function and manner of operation.

The assembly and use of the present invention are deemed readily apparent and obvious to one skilled in the art.